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DALLAS, TEXAS  
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**FORMER FORT WORTH POLICE OFFICER  
CONVICTED ON FEDERAL CIVIL RIGHTS CHARGE**

United States Attorney Richard B. Roper announced that Ruben Omar Ruiz, a former Fort Worth, Texas, police officer, was convicted this afternoon in Fort Worth following a nearly four-day trial before the Honorable Terry R. Means, United States District Judge. The jury deliberated approximately three hours to find Ruiz guilty of one count of deprivation of civil right resulting in bodily injury. Ruiz faces a maximum statutory sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing is set before Judge Means on July 25, 2005.

The government proved that in the early morning hours of September 13, 2000, following a traffic pursuit that began in the City of Forest Hill and ended in the Interlochen neighborhood in Arlington, Texas, Ruben Omar Ruiz used excessive force during the arrest of David Davis, Jr. While the Fort Worth Police Department policy allows the use of force under limited circumstances, in this case, Ruiz used his authority as a police officer to punish the suspect. The government presented evidence that while Davis was being held down by five other police officers, Ruiz repeatedly kicked Davis, struck him in the head, and then circled him and kicked him in the head again while he was laying face-down on the ground. After the officers had handcuffed Davis and moved away, Ruiz used this opportunity to walk over and stand on Davis' head with the full force of his body. The government entered into evidence a Fort Worth Police Department video which depicted all of the above.

At trial, the government also presented evidence of an earlier incident by Ruben Ruiz of excessive force in August 1998 following another high speed pursuit. In that incident, Ruiz ran up to the driver's window, broke the window with his flashlight, pulled the driver halfway out of the window through the broken glass and beat the driver over the head three times with the flashlight causing injury to the driver.

Ruben Omar Ruiz resigned from the Fort Worth Police Department in 2001.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Lynn Hastings of the United States Attorney's Office in Dallas and Malachi B. Jones of the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.